

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] there were only three economically important ministries in Czechoslovakia at the beginning of 1951. These were the Ministry of Industry (Ministerstvo Prumyslu), the Ministry of Food Industry (Ministerstvo Vyzivy), and the Ministry of Agriculture (Ministerstvo Zemedelstvi). In the middle of the year, a reshuffling of the ministry responsibilities occurred, resulting in the liquidation of the Ministry of Food Industry. This ministry had been located at Prague II, Krakovska ulice.
2. Two new ministries were established to take its place, viz., the Ministry of Food Industry (Ministerstvo Potravinarskeho Prumyslu) located at Cukerni Palec, Hlavlickovo Namesti, and the Ministry of Agricultural Supplies (Ministerstvo Vykupu) located at Vavelske Namesti, No. 53.
3. The Minister of Food Industry in the spring of 1952 was Ludmila JANKOVCOVA, a former Social Democrat. The Minister of Agricultural Supplies at that time was Josef KROSNAR, a Communist.

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4. The Ministry of Agriculture remained the same, except for the loss of its food procurement responsibility which was transformed into the new Ministry of Agricultural Supplies. Julius DURIS was Minister of Agriculture until early 1952, when he became Commissar (Poverenik) for Agriculture in Slovakia. The Commissar for Agriculture in Slovakia is the chief administrative officer for agricultural affairs in Slovakia and is responsible only to the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, not to the Minister of Agriculture. The Slovak Commissar for Agriculture thus has extraordinary power. Other Commissars in Slovakia are responsible to their respective ministers in Prague. These Commissars are essentially vice-ministers, and carry out the wishes of the ministers.
5. The Minister of Agriculture in May 1952 was Josef NEPOMUCKY, a Communist, who, from 1946 to 1952, had been chairman of the Agricultural Council in Moravia.
6. During the same period (middle of 1951), the Ministry of Industry underwent a reorganization which caused it to be split into three ministries, viz., the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of Heavy Industry, and the Ministry of Mines and Foundries.
7. The Ministry of Light Industry (Ministerstvo Lehkeho Prumyslu) had offices in Prague II, Na Porici. The building was located between the Masaryk Station and the Denis Station, and across the street from a firm known as Bila Labut (White Swan). The Ministry administered industrial organizations which produced goods from leather, glass, textiles, rubber, ceramics, and synthetics.
8. The Ministry of Heavy Industry (Ministerstvo Tezkeho Prumyslu) retained as its own the offices of the former Ministry of Industry at Prague II, Na Frantisku 2. The Ministry administered plants engaged in the production of machinery, which was classified as light, medium, and heavy. Light machinery included compressors, small electric motors and turbines, fans, and ventilators. Medium machinery included conveying machines, elevators, electro-technical apparatus, lathes, and other machine tools. Heavy machinery included chemical production equipment, steam turbines, diesel motors, steam boilers and other steam machinery, heavy electric equipment, such as dynamos, electric wiring, cables and conductors, and mining machinery.
9. The Ministry of Mines and Foundries (Ministerstvo Dolu a Hutniho Prumyslu) had offices at Prague XII, Slezska ulice. The building was between Koruni trida and Stalinova trida. The Ministry administered the activities of mines, including uranium mines, and the production of metals from ores.
10. The Minister of Industry in 1950 was Gustav KLIMENT, who became Minister of Heavy Industry at the time of the reshuffling. In May or June 1952, KLIMENT was made Chairman of the Central Trade Union Council (Ustredni Rada Odboru -- URO), which held its meetings at Prague I, Na Perstine 8. KLIMENT's successor as Minister of Heavy Industry was Julius MAURER, a Communist, who had no technical qualifications.

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